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Aruba's Tourism is topic of discussion in meetings in Miami



Republican budget would cut \$5.3 trillion, slash taxes

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US House Republicans rolled out a proposed budget Tuesday that slashes \$5.3 trillion from President Barack Obama's spending blueprint and cuts taxes for homeowners.

Unveiled by House Budget Committee chairman Paul Ryan surrounded by fellow Republicans, the Republican proposal amounted to

an opening salvo in election-year battles over public health insurance and pension programs.

Ryan said the budget -- which stands little chance of passage in the Democratic-controlled Senate -- presents Americans with "a choice of two futures," one burdened by excessive debt, the other on a path to prosperity.

"This plan of action is about putting an end to empty promises from bankrupt government and restoring the fundamental promise of America: ensuring that our children have more opportunity than we do," he told a news conference.

The proposal for fiscal year 2013, which begins October 1, calls for \$5 billion in spending cuts over 10 years, and would slash the US deficit to \$797 billion next year, about \$180 billion less than under Obama's budget as estimated by the Congressional Budget Office.

It also involves collapsing the six existing US tax brackets to two rates: a 10 percent bracket and a 25 percent bracket for individuals, and a 25 percent bracket for corporations, which is at the international average," he said.

The highest current individual tax bracket is 35 percent.

His proposal poses a risk for Republicans in an election year as it includes reforms to Medicare and Medicaid, the popular but expensive health insurance programs for the elderly and the poor.

Recently, the Minister of Tourism, Otmar Oduber, spent three days in Miami meeting with different executives with Aruba's tourism as the central matter on the agenda. During the 3 days the minister met Neville Every, who was recently appointed by ATA to be director of tourism for the North American area.

Neville is an Aruban with more than 10 years of experience in the area of finances and in a leadership position in a foreign company with various affiliates around the world. During this encounter the Minister discussed various strategies to expand Aruba's tourism from the

North American area.

With respect to cruise ships, the Minister held a meeting with Rene Kitzen of "The Signature Group" who were contracted by ATA to promote cruise lines to use Aruba's wharf during the off-season. The Signature Group will work closely with ATA, APA and the Ministry of Tourism to achieve the goals set by the government of Aruba with respect to cruise tourism.

To help them achieve their goal, the government has decided to establish a Cruise Committee that will be in charge of delineating a strategy and an incentive package.

Continue on pg 2



Up close with America's Next Top Model All-Star Winner Lisa D'Amato (see story inside on pg 4)



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Aruba's Tourism is topic of discussion in meetings in Miami

Continued from pg 1

As part of the Miami Cruise Shipping, the Minister met with Simone Filippini, Dutch Kingdom Counsel in Miami, Port Amsterdam and various cruise lines. Mrs. Filippini promised to integrate Aruba as much as possible in the activities of the Dutch Counsel. She was instrumental in bringing executives of the Port of Amsterdam together for a dialogue with the Aruba Minister, which opened doors for future communication with Aruba.

The Minister also met with Captain Tringale of Carnival Cruise Lines, who is about to retire very soon.

Tringale was very instrumental in getting Carnival Cruise ships to return to Aruba in 2010. During the encounter with Tringale they succeeded in raising the interest of the Paul Gauguin Ship, a very luxurious ship, to call on Aruba in 2013. The Minister also held talks with rep-

resentatives of the Puerto di Cartagena, which has become an extremely important port for routes to the Southern Caribbean area.

With respect to Airlines, a meeting was held with the Vice President of American Airlines, Peter Dolara. Dolara has been promoting routes to the Caribbean and Aruba for more than 30 years. Next month Peter Dolara will step down from his current position as Vice President and assume the new roll of Adviser (Council) to the President of American Airlines.

The three days of intensive meetings with some of the key players in the promotion of Aruba's tourism was well spent, according to government observers. They claim that these meetings will certainly contribute to the further development of Aruba's tourism; and they have also opened new doors of opportunities for Aruba.

PALMARUBA may be just what you are looking for...



PalmAruba Managing Director Victor Acosta

"Sometimes I felt just like Goldilocks and The Three Bears," confided an island visitor of their search for the perfect condominium property on Aruba. "We found one property was either too big or another too small; we were really looking for something in the right area that gave us a sense of community, but had a bit more of a resort feel we like -we are still looking."

Perhaps this couple, and many like them, seeking that ideal condominium facility should stop by the offices of PALMARUBA to learn about the exciting new project that is like Momma Bear- a comfortable fit that is "just right."

The project is the dream of veteran real estate developer Victor Acosta, well known to owners at Palma Real, Oceania, and Montana Plaza, all very popular projects that saw successful completion. Victor has done both big and small, and it has long been his dream to create small to mid-size project he noticed many potential clients were seeking; from his experience he also has noticed such a complex would be much more efficient to run.

PALMARUBA has a superior location in the heart of Palm Beach, with sufficient distance

to create a tranquil oasis away from the hustle and bustle of the main strip, but close enough to all the action that a pleasant stroll allows residents to avail themselves of all the casinos and amenities and of course, Aruba's best beaches. When completed, PALMARUBA will provide shuttle service to the beach (and airport) for its owners and their guests, several times a day.

Actually, all amenities of PALMARUBA, the pool, Jacuzzi, fitness room, restaurant, tennis court, game room, concierge services and 24/7 security will all come on-line along with the opening of the facility, as it is Victor's intention to only open when everything is ready. "I have

anyone who is living here needs in the way of shopping and services, less than 5 minutes walk away."

During the planning, rising energy costs were kept in mind, and the PalmAruba complex will make as much use of renewable energy technology as possible, thus reducing utility costs for their condo owners.

The spacious, affordable units range from a 1 bedroom/bath of 76 sq meters to luxurious 3 bed/bath penthouses of 224 sq meters. For those that are seeking something truly unique, check out the "Sugar Palm" design with an extra bed and bath in a duplex loft. The project will boast 5 floors, offering spectacular views of the sea and shore from the upper level terraces. Other vital services, such as



seen those who bought in first to various projects have to suffer with the noise and inconvenience of constant construction," explains Victor of his plan, "and I do not want that for our clients. Because we will only offer 76 units we will complete the entire project by the end of 2014 and present it to our owners as a fait accompli, so they may fully enjoy the promised rest and relaxation that was why they purchased in the first place. We are particularly pleased with this Palm Beach location as the area has built up over the past few years to not only offer Aruba's best dining and nightlife, but all

maid, babysitting and catering for special parties, as well as rental of the condo when not in use, can be arranged through the PALMARUBA Management services.

So if you are looking for that perfect fit, one that is not too small or too large, as well as an experienced developer with a track record you can trust, then pay a visit to the PALMARUBA offices next to the Palm Beach gas station. Call them at 586-7300 for an appointment to learn of their excellent pre-construction prices. You can also visit them at: www.palaruba.com or follow them on Facebook or Twitter.



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ATTENTION

Electricity interruption tomorrow in different neighborhoods

ORANJESTAD — Aruba's electricity company, N.V. Elmar announces to the general public and the community of Noord in particular that the announcement of electricity interruption on Tuesday was an error. The interruption will be tomorrow, **Thursday, March 22**, in connection due to different works that Elmar must carry out.

From 8 a.m. until 12 noon there will be no electricity in the following neighborhoods: Calabas partially, Kudawecha partially, Noord partially, Alto Vista partially,

Sabana Liber partially, Seroe Janchi partially and Sabana Villas.

From 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. there will be no electricity in the following neighborhoods: Montaña partially, Seroe Janchi partially, Matadera partially, Sabana Liber partially, Boegoeroei partially, Salinja partially and Paraguaná partially.

Elmar apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause and assures the habitants that it will work as fast and efficient as possible in order to supply electricity for their daily use.

Embraer visits Tiara Air Aruba



During the Aruba's Mission to Brazil some weeks ago. Tiara Air Aruba was invited to Embraer Brazil by the Vice President for Latin America and Caribbean Mr. Eduardo Muñoz and his team as part of the mission. They did an ample presentation about the company and its aircrafts. These are the e-jets; E170,

E175, E190 and E195, which are state of the art aircrafts and in Latin America they are operated by the most important airlines such as: Copa Airlines, Taca, AZUL and many more.

These aircrafts are competing in the world for its performance and cost. This meeting was followed by the visit of the Embraer execu-

tives to Aruba for a meeting with the Directors with the scope of establishing a strategic partnership and fleet planning.

This company is interested in providing new aircrafts and technical assistance. Both parties will continue to seek the possibilities.



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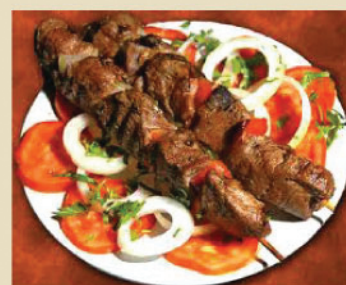
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America's Next Top Model Winner Lisa D'Amato feels at home at Gold Coast Villas

Lisa D'Amato, who recently won the All Stars edition of America's Next Top Model, was the special guest personality for the opening of the Marriott Resort's special "Adults Only" pool on March 10, entertaining invitees along with famed Los Angeles DJ Ivy.

However, she and her fiancé Adam found Aruba just too delightful to depart after only a few days. They even considered the idea of a home here, so took a tour of Gold Coast Villas, one of the island's most luxurious gated communities, where she was recognized by sales personnel. When she expressed her desire to never leave, but was without accommodations, they generously invited her and Adam to spend a week with them and sample Gold Coast life.

As a born and bred Los Angeles native who has been modeling since the age of twelve, Lisa has very savvy insights into "tinseltown" and is quite candid about her life and experiences. She chatted with island media about where she is coming from and where she is going, and what she learned from her time with the competitive Oxygen Network reality show, on which she finished 6th when competing her first time during its 5th cycle, but was the favorite for the All Stars Edition.

"The first time around, I had no idea how the show worked, I had never watched it," she recalls. "They put us up in a house together and I didn't know you had to run in before the others and claim a bed; I ended up sleeping on the floor. However, this time around I got the best room and the best bed, and I saved the ones around me for the friends I had made during the show."

Lisa's honesty with the



Lisa would love to own at Gold Coast

other girls also earned her a place among the "Top Ten Villains of Reality TV" from TV Guide. "What is with that anyway?" she wonders. "They tell us on the show to talk to each other, to be honest, help each other, so I was, and then I get dissed for it, but I got used to the nasty comments on Twitter

they think is the anonymity of the Internet to just be mean; I get it, so I just dismiss that nonsense. Also, what we say and do is usually taken out of context, and I understand that, too. It's all about entertainment first and foremost, not necessarily truth, so they put together what they think will

Idaho or Nebraska, where they were Homecoming Queens and treated as the big celebrity, the most beautiful girl in town. In L.A. and to me, they are no big deal. I totally understand why they would find me threatening. I have been living with it all my life, I have thick skin, it is not my fault they don't have one yet; does that make sense?"

For five years, Lisa has been pursuing a musical career, and issued a number of Hip-Hop and Rap videos while performing in concert with some well known bands. She admits, winning the title of ANTM All Star "generally puts a fancier font on my resume. If you still aren't driven, if you are just another pretty face, nobody cares. You have to have drive." Even before winning, she already had a number of "cards set up" for 2012, including negotiating her own TV show, possibly for Oxygen, though now E! Entertainment Television is also interested, which appeals to her greatly. She has a new record



Lisa meets fans Isabella, Kaylin and Kalina

and such, and don't let them bother me. There are a lot of frustrated young people out there in front of their computers taking advantage of what

keep audiences interested."

"As a Los Angeles native, I also have a very different demeanor than these girls in the competition that come from

that has just been released, and is keeping very busy. Her videos can be viewed and downloaded from her official website: <http://lisadamato.com>.

Lisa also expressed her admiration for ANTM show host Tara Banks, and how she has matured and evolved from the woman she first met during the 5th cycle of the program, to the person she is now.

Lisa is very open about her parents' divorce and being abused when she was young; she warmly welcomed three young local fans, Isabella, Kaylin and Kalina, and shared the experiences of being on your own from a young age, warning them of the dangers they can encounter. She created a musical performing persona "La Puccinetta," which can be seen in her "Faded Florescent" music video, and admits it was an alter ego to which she escaped during the worst times of her youth.

"I underwent therapy and realized that anyone who creates alter egos usually went through child abuse—you know, some have invisible friends, I had an alter-ego; when I needed to get through something, I would pretend I was her." Her La Puccinetta make-up includes mirrored triangles down her cheeks, which are teardrops, as Lisa sees her as the "sad joker. I made those, as they symbolize a lot of me."

Lisa departs Aruba today, but she swears to come back. She is beginning a concert tour that will take her around the U.S., singing alongside some top bands and is featured in fashion spreads in some major fashion magazines coming out soon. Considering her singular look and vibrant personality, it is highly likely a lot more devoted fans will greet her upon her return—perhaps for a honeymoon?

By Rosalie Klein

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Aruban Anouk Eman grabs third place at “US collegiate Synchronized Swimming Championship



Last Saturday the “US collegiate Synchronized Swimming Championship” took place in Gainesville, Florida. Young Aruban, Anouk Eman was one of the participants in this fantastic championship. Anouk became the third

place winner of her school.

Anouk swam duo with Reem Abdalazeem of the Lindenwood University. Their friends made a three days journey by car from Orlando to be in Gainesville to cheer on their friends Anouk

and Reem. They came with Aruban flag and loud cheers.

They came in third and won a special medal which was received during a highly spirited ceremony filled with emotions and satisfaction. This championship was



under the auspices of the popular US Synchro team. American schools especially enjoy the Synchro Swimming

sport. Aruba and the Morning News congratulate Anouk Eman for her excellent performance

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

International News

France warns 'determined' gunman may strike again



TOULOUSE (AFP) - French investigators fear a gunman who has killed three soldiers and four Jews, including three children, in cold-blooded attacks may strike again, the head of the inquiry warned Tuesday.

Francois Molins, who as chief Paris prosecutor oversees counter-terrorism investigations, said the unidentified gunman knows that he is being hunted and warned that he is "likely to act again."

"All the dead victims received a bullet wound fired at point blank range at the level of the head," Molins said, explaining that powder burns showed the muzzle of the gun was touching the victims.

Meanwhile, police were scouring the Internet in search of potentially grim footage after witnesses said the gunman was wearing a video camera when he murdered the Jewish school children in the southern city of Toulouse.

School pupils across the country joined public employees and lawmakers to observe a minute of silence for the victims of the gunman's latest attack, and the country's presidential race was effectively put on hold.

Molins said police believe the scooter-riding gunman was responsible for the murder of

an off-duty paratrooper on March 11, of two of his comrades on Thursday and of a rabbi and three Jewish children in Monday's school attack.

Officials have said the same gun and and make of scooter was used in all three attacks and noted that the three attacks were carried out at precise four-day intervals.

Molins said the attacks had been classified as terrorism because they "gravely disturbed public order by intimidation or terror" adding that the killings could be "racist and anti-Semitic but still also terrorist."

President Nicolas Sarkozy paid silent homage to the victims at a school in Paris close to the city's Holocaust memorial, and afterwards admitted that authorities had as yet no clue as to the identity of the killer.

"Anti-Semitism is obvious. The Jewish school attack was an anti-Semitic crime," Sarkozy told reporters at the Paris school after meeting children. "But the soldiers? Was it because they were back from Afghanistan? Was it because they were from minorities? We don't know," he said. "We must be very cautious until we have arrested someone."

The three soldiers who died were French citizens of North African origin, while another who was critically wounded in the attack was black and from the French West Indies.

On Monday, the gunman launched a controlled but vicious attack on a group of parents and children outside the Ozar Hatorah school.

Teacher Jonathan Sandler, 30, and his two sons Arie, 5, and Gabriel, 4, were shot dead in the street. The killer then ran onto the grounds and shot Miriam Monsonego, the seven-year-old daughter of the school director.

The bodies of the four victims were on Tuesday flown to Paris with their families, where they were to be joined by Foreign Minister Alain Juppe en route to Israel for burial in Jerusalem on Wednesday.

Sarkozy paid his respects to the bodies as they lay in Charles de Gaulle airport and they were to depart on an El Al flight at 2250 GMT.

Interior Minister Claude Gueant said the shooter may have recorded his crime with a sports video camera witnesses saw strapped to his chest and that he could be planning to put the footage on the Internet.

Molins however said there was no "certainty" that the killer had a camera, adding it was a "hypothesis" based on sometimes confused witness reports.

Norwegian extremist Anders Behring Breivik, who last July went on a shooting spree that killed 77 people, mostly teenagers, advised anyone wanting to carry out copycat killings to film their attack using such a camera.

With apparently few clues to go on, police were downplaying suspicions hanging over three soldiers recently sacked for expressing neo-Nazi views.

Divided UN Council seeks accord on Syria statement

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) - The divided UN Security Council on Tuesday negotiated a statement on the Syria crisis amid warnings from Russia that it will not accept any "ultimatum" against President Bashar al-Assad.

Diplomats from the 15-nation council held the first talks on a Western-drafted presidential statement seeking to reinforce international backing to UN-Arab League envoy Kofi Annan's efforts to halt the year-old bloodshed in Syria.

The statement, obtained by AFP, does not condemn the violence but would express "gravest concern" at the deteriorating crisis in Syria and "profound regret" at the thousands of dead.

It calls on Assad and Syria's opposition to "implement fully and immediately" Annan's six-point peace plan. It says the council will "consider further measures" if nothing is done within seven days of any adoption.

UN ambassadors were to hold a second round of talks later in the day and France's UN envoy Gerard Araud said he still "hoped" it could be adopted on Tuesday.

A presidential statement has less weight than a full resolution. It is adopted by consensus and is generally negotiated faster.

But Russia, which with China has already vetoed two full resolutions on Syria, has insisted it will accept no "ultimatum" in any form against the Damascus government, its major Middle East ally.

Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said that his country was ready to back a Security Council statement or resolution on Syria.

But he said Annan's proposals to Assad must be published and properly debated and that "the Security Council should approve them not as an ultimatum but with consideration for the work that is ongoing" by the UN-Arab League envoy.

Araud said Monday that the proposed statement "is really the least controversial text that we could utter."

"Lavrov's comments were to be expected but the talks are going ahead, we all think this is urgent," commented one Western diplomat at the Security Council, who called the proposed statement "condemnation lite."

Russia and China objected to the two European drafted resolutions on Syria because they said they were unbalanced and aimed only at regime change. Russia and China oppose sanctions in UN resolutions though both have expressed increased concern at the Syria bloodbath.

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International News

Chaotic burial for Egypt's Coptic Pope Shenuda



STBISHOY MONASTERY, (AFP) - Egypt's Coptic Pope Shenuda was laid to rest on Tuesday in a monastery in the Egyptian desert, amid hysterical scenes as thousands of mourners mobbed to get close to his coffin.

Following a funeral service at Cairo's St Mark's Cathedral, Shenuda's body was flown some 100 kilometres (60 miles) by military aircraft to Beheira province in the north-

west, where the motorcade took it to St Bishoy monastery in Wadi Natrun.

There, lines of military police at the entrance to the monastery crumbled under the force of screaming worshippers who rushed the convoy.

One woman hung precariously from the ambulance carrying the patriarch's body, as panicked officers shouted and tried to push back the heaving crowds.

His body was finally taken

into the 4th century monastery where he had asked to be buried, a large cross of flowers placed over his marble resting place. Mourners clambered over each other to snatch flowers and kiss the tomb.

Shenuda died on Saturday aged 88 after a long illness, leaving behind a community increasingly anxious about the rise of Islamism and political uncertainty.

During the funeral service, Shenuda's body, dressed in robes and a gold crown, lay in an open coffin as patriarchs of Orthodox churches said prayers.

Pallbearers struggled to get the white coffin out of the vast cathedral in the capital.

Coptic hymns and incense filled the church as clergy, officials and choirboys wept and waved goodbye to their spiritual leader, the head of the Middle East's largest Christian community.

Powerful quake shakes southern Mexico, capital

MEXICO CITY (AFP) - A powerful 7.6-magnitude earthquake struck southwest Mexico Tuesday, causing residents in the capital several hundred miles away to rush out onto the streets but no immediate reports of serious damage.

The quake struck near the tourist resort of Acapulco, just after midday some 15 miles (25 kilometers) northeast of the town of Ometepe, the US Geological Survey said. Earlier it had estimated the magnitude at 7.9, before downgrading it to 7.6.

"There are no reports of serious damage by the quake," President Felipe Calderon wrote on his Twitter account.

Humberto Calvo, from Guerrero state civil protection services, said Acapulco was free of damage.

But he warned: "The problem could be in some areas between Guerrero and Oaxaca (states). We're checking."

The quake's epicenter was between the two southern states, both bordering the Pacific ocean.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center said a destructive, widespread tsunami had not been generated but warned of possible "local tsunami effects."

"The earthquake is located inland from the coast," it added.

In Mexico City, the quake

swayed buildings, telephone and power lines were cut off and traffic lights stopped working as office workers rushed into the streets.

Mexico City Mayor Marcelo Ebrard reported no serious damage was visible during a helicopter survey.

The mayor's Twitter account said the water system and other "strategic services" were not experiencing problems.

It was one of the strongest quakes to shake Mexico City since 1985, when an 8.1 quake left between 6,000 and 30,000 dead, according to officials and rescue organizations respectively.

EU set to sanction Syria, Iran, Belarus this week

BRUSSELS (AFP) - European Union foreign ministers will consider slapping fresh sanctions this week against Syria, Iran and Belarus as the bloc ramps up its drive to stop human rights abuse.

EU officials said ministers who gather in Brussels from late Thursday were expected to add 18 Iranians "responsible for serious human rights violations" to a blacklist of 61 people already under an EU travel ban and asset freeze.

A ban is also likely against exporting equipment that could be used to monitor or intercept Internet and phone communications in Iran, said officials working on the measures who asked not to be identified.

On Syria, ministers will look "at adding a few more names" to a blacklist of around 150 firms and people already targeted in 12 previous rounds of European sanctions, an EU official said.

An EU diplomat said members of the 27-nation bloc were agreed on adding 12 people and two companies to the list but that no joint move was expected on closing EU embassies in Damascus unless the situation deteriorated.

Six of the 19 EU nations with embassies in Syria have

left -- Britain, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain -- while the EU has offered space in its delegation to any EU member wanting to close its premises but leave officials behind.

The EU last month slapped a freeze on Syria's central bank while also banning trade in gold and precious metals and cargo flights to the EU operated by Syrians.

The situation in Syria and Iran will top talks on Friday between the foreign ministers and Turkish counterpart Ahmet Davutoglu, who is also expected to brief his colleagues on Istanbul's view of the Middle East peace process.

European nations meanwhile are continuing talks on new sanctions against Belarus to force the authoritarian regime of President Alexander Lukashenko "to free and rehabilitate all political prisoners," said a senior EU official.

A source said sanctions being considered targeted 29 firms and 12 people, nine of them involved in the judiciary.

Some 230 people are already blacklisted over the continuing repression by Lukashenko's regime of civil society, the political opposition and the independent media.



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Health & Living

Important lecture by Aruba Epilepsy Foundation on Purple Day: World Epilepsy Day



World Epilepsy Day... "Purple Day" is Monday, March 26th. On this day, the Aruba Epilepsy Foundation has planned to present a special lecture in the ATIA Building at 7:00pm. The main focus of the lecture will be epilepsy among children.

Pediatrician Dr. Eric Arends will speak on epilepsy in new born babies, and noted Houston, Texas Pediatrician, Dr. Micheal Kessler will address the issue of abused children and epilepsy.

Parents of a severely epileptic child will share their experiences with their epileptic child.

The foundation chose March 26th to offer these lectures because this is the day that the world stops just long enough to bring awareness to this disease. March 26 is also called Purple Day.

The foundation is convinced that it is important that Aruba knows what epilepsy is, what it means to children who have the disease and how families ought to deal with the problem.

Having epilepsy is not a

matter of life and death, but it is important to know how to adequately deal with it. Everyone is cordially invited to attend this information night at the ATIA Building from 7:00pm in the evening. Entrance is gratis for everyone.

'Anti-alcoholism' drug clears key test hurdle



PARIS (AFP) - A drug designed to treat nervous spasms has cleared an important early test in a project to see whether it can also cure alcoholism, French doctors said on Tuesday.

Baclofen -- the lab name for a medication branded as Kemstro, Lioresal and Gablofen -- was successful in a preliminary test among a small group of alcoholics, a result that opens the way to formal clinical trials, they said.

The history of the drug goes back 50 years. It was originally designed for epilepsy before becoming licensed to treat spasticity, but researchers are now interested in using it to ease alcoholic craving.

Interest was sparked in 2008 by a book, *Le Dernier Verre* (The Last Glass), by cardiologist Olivier Ameisen, who self-treated his alcoholism with high doses of baclofen.

The new test entailed enrolling 132 heavy drinkers who were given baclofen at high doses over a year.

Eighty percent either became abstinent or became moderate drinkers. By comparison, two drugs that are commonly used to treat alcoholics, naltrexon and acamprosate, yield a success rate of 20-25 percent.

Side effects included fatigue, drowsiness, insomnia, dizziness and digestive troubles.

Lead researcher Philippe Jaury of the University of Paris-Descartes said the outcome opened the door to one-year clinical trials, expected to start in May, in which 320 alcoholics would be divided into two groups.

One batch will receive baclofen, progressively building in dosage until the craving symptoms subside, while the others will receive an inactive lookalike pill, or placebo.

France's health system is paying 750,000 euros (\$469,000) of the 1.2-million-euro (\$1.45-million) cost of the trial, and an unidentified donor is paying the rest, Jaury told AFP.

The pre-trial study is published in a specialist journal, *Alcohol and Alcoholism*.

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Community Health & Wellness Fair

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Aureus University School of Medicine

ORANJESTAD - This Saturday, the Aureus University School of Medicine is organizing its 3rd Annual Health Fair. Students of the school are offering attendees FREE health screening for cholesterol, diabetes, blood pressure, and vision. They will also give valuable education and information regarding your health. The venue is Wayaca 31-C and the fair is from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome. **PLEASE do not eat 8 hours before laboratory work. Breakfast will be provided afterwards.**



Combat Dengue

Keep around your house and yard clean

Sci-Tech

Starbucks, Eco-Tech and Balashi partner for Aruba's first Save the Earth campaign



Chaim displays various items accepted for recycling



Tineka and Magali of Starbucks, Gareth and Chaim



Tineka explains the new blond roast

Three companies under the umbrella of local Meta Corporation are pooling their resources to raise environmental awareness this

coming Earth Day, Sunday, April 22. Executives from Starbucks, Eco-Tech waste management and Aruba's national brewery, Balashi/Trop-



Starbucks, Ecotech and Balashi recycling campaign

ical Bottling which produces and distributes Coca Cola products, have joined together to offer great incentives for islanders to properly save and sort their refuse, then turn it in during a grand Earth Day celebration at Renaissance Marketplace from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Eco-Tech representative Chaim Chirino displayed the wide variety of materials which will be accepted as recyclable: plastic bottles, aluminum beverage cans, tinned food cans, old newspapers and magazines can all be processed, thus reducing Aruba's waste and carbon footprints, as room is made at the public landfill by burning accumulated waste. Old concrete blocks can also be recycled at the ATCO plant.

Gareth Koolman of Balashi/Tropical Bottling reminds islanders that Balashi and Balashi Chill beer bottles are deposit bottles, and they should not fail to return them to centers in Oranjestad and San Nicolas, along with the plastic cases, for credit towards their next purchase. To make it more convenient for



Zugheila samples the new blond roast

loyal customers, seven supermarkets on the island will now exchange bottles and cases, among them Three Colors in Oranjestad and New Food in San Nicolas.

Eco-Tech maintains a modern recycling plant where waste is sorted and packaged to be sent off to factories where it will be recycled. During the gala Earth Day celebration at the Renaissance Marketplace there will be popular bands, activities of the kinds, and information regarding how to sort waste for recycling along with the introduction of their new Mobil Recovery Facility, (MRF.) Those attending the mini-workshops will receive some useful logo gear and gadgets.

Prizes will be awarded in three categories for those that do the best job: Balashi/Tropical will award a prize for the most quantity of bottles and cases turned in for credit as well as worth the most

money and Eco-Tech will award a prize for the heaviest load of refuse. Grand prize winner will receive the use of a waste container for a weekend to clean out their yard and house.

Starbucks will also be awarding gift certificates and logo gear for those participating in the clean up as part of their international Month of Services program. Starbucks' managers Magali of the Paseo Herencia outlet and Tineka from Renaissance Mall also took the opportunity to introduce the new "Blond Roast" line of light coffee, which is making its debut on Aruba.

International Earth Day is a time to enjoy the natural bounties of our planet and contemplate how we can preserve and protect them; Meta Corp invites all to get into the spirit of Save the Earth by doing their part, which can earn them tangible rewards for generations to come.

by Rosalie Klein

Lunch Buffet
Saturday - Sunday
12:00 - 3 p.m.

Dinner
Monday - Sunday
6:00 - 11:00 p.m

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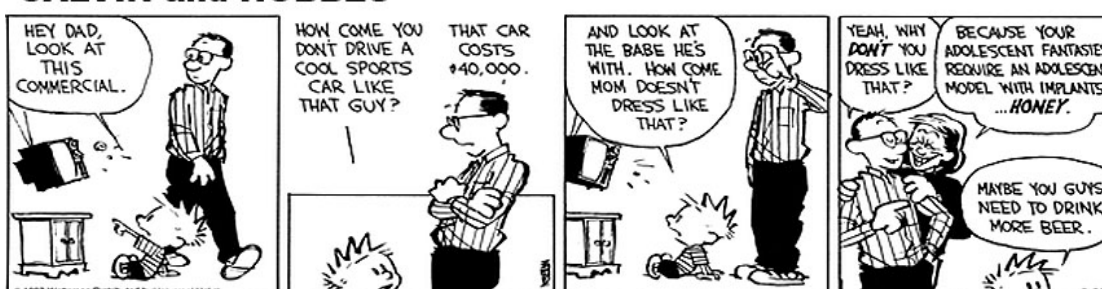
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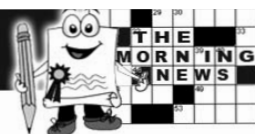
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CALVIN and HOBBS



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CROSSWORD

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www.themorningnewsaruba.com

ACROSS

1. Hitters' stats
5. Prefix for phone
9. Dickens's Tiny
12. Oodles (2 wds.)
13. "Physician, ___ thyself"
14. Hollywood's Gardner
15. Excursion
16. Shade trees
17. SST, for one
18. Act like a sponge
20. Soothing salve
22. Lettuce piece
24. Makes airtight
27. Song refrain

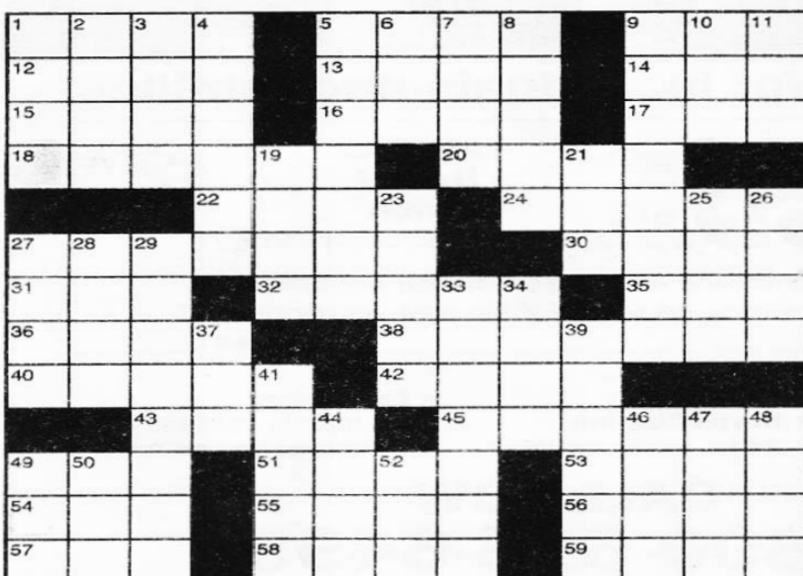
- (3 wds.)
30. "___ I Did for Love"
31. Forbid
32. Luxurious
35. Alias letters
36. Slant
38. Not as large
40. Pie variety
42. Actress Garr
43. ___ majorette
45. Decrease
49. Commotion
51. Fencing match
53. Comic-strip possum
54. Turned the lamp on
55. Actress

- Sommer
56. Cutting side
57. Fixed rate
58. Gardener's need
59. Sunshine units

DOWN

1. ___-tat-tat (hyph.)
2. Thick globule
3. Chits
4. Walk unhurriedly
5. Keep ___ rolling (2 wds.)
6. Slippery fish
7. Baby sheep

8. Martinelli and Maxwell
9. Agra structure (2 wds.)
10. "___ Got a Secret"
11. Acrobat's pad
19. Harvest
21. Writer Wallace
23. Goethe play
25. Veronica of films
26. Prominent actor
27. Recipe measurement (abbr.)
28. Gardener's tool
29. Amusing story
33. Detected a scent
34. Rabbit's cousin
37. Armed hostility
39. Cindy Brady, e.g.
41. Sculptor's models
44. Certain slipper
46. Root beer, e.g.
47. Like mayonnaise
48. Negative votes
49. Landon of politics
50. Expire
52. Squeak by



BOTICA

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Fri.-Sun. 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

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Care Center
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Telephone
Numbers

HOSPITAL

Horacio Oduber Hospital
Tel. 5274000

EMERGENCY

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POLICE HDQS
Telephone 100

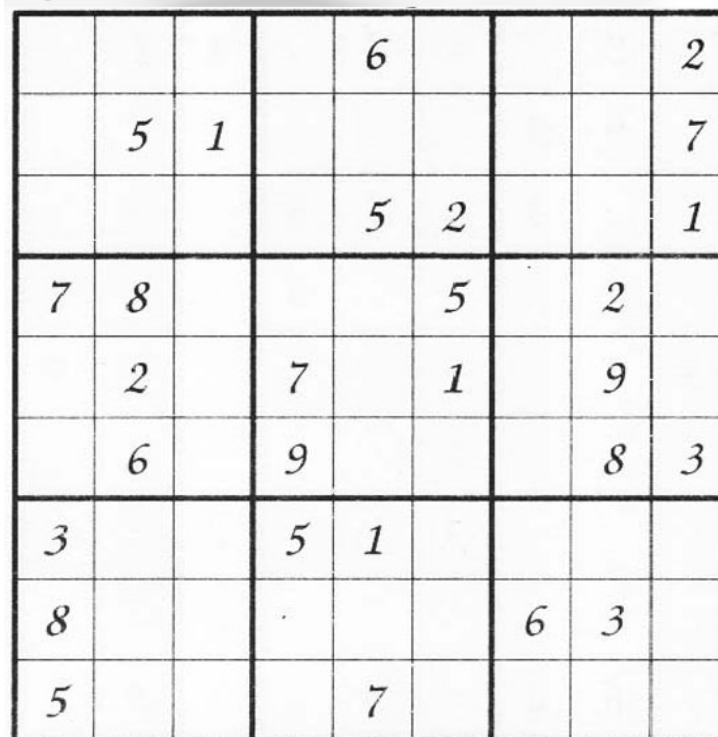
TAXI

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582-5447
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professional taxi services
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Sudoku



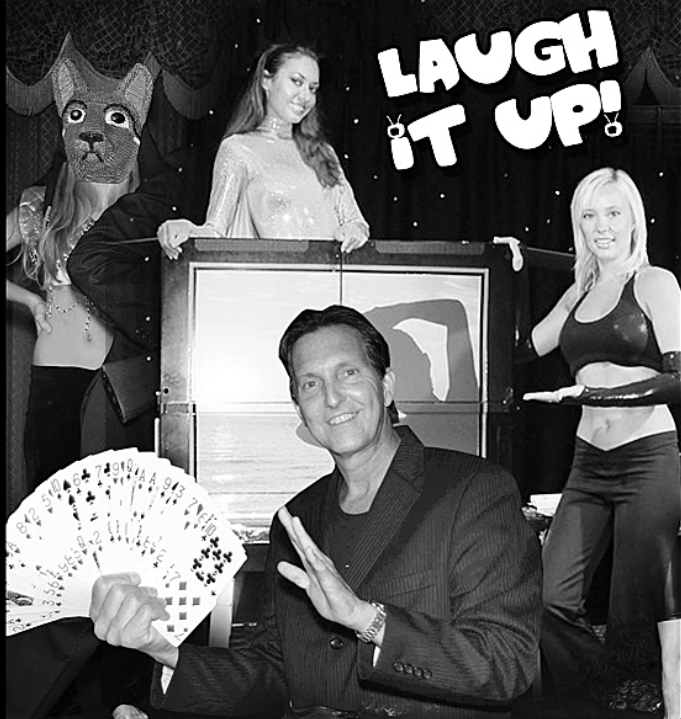
SOLUTION

6	1	2	5	8	9	4	3	7
5	8	9	6	4	2	7	1	3
8	4	7	9	1	5	2	6	3
8	8	4	7	2	6	5	9	1
9	6	5	1	8	7	4	2	3
4	2	1	5	9	6	8	7	3
1	7	6	2	5	8	9	4	3
4	9	8	6	7	1	5	2	3
2	5	8	4	9	1	7	6	3

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9.



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at the WESTIN RESORT, Aruba



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World Bank approves \$1 bn for projects in Pakistan

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The World Bank said Tuesday it would fund two projects totaling \$1.09 billion, in energy and irrigation, aimed at supporting Pakistan's growth agenda for reducing poverty.

The World Bank's executive board approved the projects Tuesday, the development lender said in a statement.

The \$840 million Tarbela IV Extension Hydropower Project will add power generation capacity of 1,410 megawatts, contributing a crucial source of electricity for the economic growth and development of Pakistan, the World Bank said.

Only 15 percent of Pakistan's vast hydropower po-

tential has been developed, the Bank noted.

"The beauty of this project is that it will help Pakistan reduce the gap between supply and demand of electricity by maximizing the benefits of existing infrastructure of Tarbela Dam without requiring any land acquisition or relocation of population," Rachid Benmessaoud, World Bank country director for Pakistan, said in the statement.

"The direct beneficiaries will be millions of energy users, including industry, households and farmers who would get more electricity at a lower cost and suffer fewer blackouts."

Finance

Oil prices dive on Saudi supply pledge



output after the Saudi Cabinet yesterday said that the kingdom would work 'individually' and with other nations for the 'return of oil prices to fair levels,'" said Addison Armstrong at Tradition Energy.

Saudi Arabia recently has repeated assurances that it would make up for

NEW YORK (AFP) - Oil prices fell sharply Tuesday after Saudi Arabia reiterated that it would ensure enough supply to help cool prices amid concerns about the impact of sanctions on Iran.

New York's main futures contract, West Texas Intermediate crude for April, slid \$2.48 to close at \$105.61 a barrel.

In London trade, Brent North Sea crude for delivery in May settled at \$124.12 a barrel, down \$1.59 from Monday's closing level.

The New York market was "under pressure from speculation Saudi Arabia will boost

a supply shortfall to compensate for lost Iranian output as Western sanctions over Tehran's suspected nuclear weapons program take effect.

The assurances from Saudi Arabia come as the international community ramps up sanctions on Iran -- the world's fourth-largest oil producer -- in an effort to halt its nuclear activities, which Iran insists is for peaceful purposes only.

The United States said Tuesday it was exempting 11 nations including European Union members and Japan from tough new sanctions on Iran, praising them for reduc-

ing dependency on Tehran's oil.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said that the United States would exempt financial institutions from 11 nations -- Belgium, Britain, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Poland and Spain.

The International Monetary Fund on Tuesday warned that an abrupt, large spike in oil prices could hammer global growth.

IMF managing director Christine Lagarde estimated that crude oil prices may spike by up to 30 percent if Iranian supplies were disrupted, causing "serious consequences" for the global economy.

China, meanwhile, announced the biggest price increases on gasoline and diesel in nearly three years to curb demand.

China is the second biggest consumer of oil, after the United States.

Greece receives first 7.5 bn euros in new bailout

(AFP)--Greece received on Tuesday a first payout of 7.5 billion euros (\$9.9 billion) under its second international bailout, a finance ministry official said.

Greece received 5.9 billion euros from the eurozone and 1.6 billion euros from the

International Monetary Fund, said the official.

Following a debt swap with private creditors earlier this month that wiped some 100 billion euros off of Greece's debt, the eurozone approved a new rescue programme worth up to 130 bil-

lion euros.

The IMF followed up with a 28 billion euro package.

The funds are being disbursed in installments provided Greece meets agreed targets to cut its spending excesses and reform its economy.

The government has said that the public deficit for 2011, a key sign of the country's economic recovery closely monitored by its creditors, is expected to close at 9.2 percent of output.

The figure was included in a presentation by deputy finance minister Philippos Sachinidis to economists on Monday.



INDIA, NEW DELHI : In this handout photograph released on March 20, 2012 by India's Press Information Bureau shows Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Christine Lagarde (L) speaking with India's Union Minister for Commerce and Industry and Textiles Anand Sharma in New Delhi on March 19, 2012. Lagarde, who was in India to meet with Indian leaders, said New Delhi needed to create a "business-friendly" environment to draw vital investment and narrow its ballooning fiscal deficit. (AFP PHOTO)

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

S	U	M	S	E	R	S	T	O	G	A
I	S	I	T	D	O	T	A	R	I	S
P	A	N	O	R	A	M	A	N	A	N
R	E	M	A	R	R	I				
H	O	N	E	S		T	H	A	M	E
E	R	A	S		E	L	E	E	A	V
A	G	O		E	X	T	R	A	R	I
L	A	M		W	E	D	S		B	I
S	N	I	P	E	R		P	L	E	A
				E	S	C	A	P	E	E
O	M	A	R		I	M	I	T	A	T
D	A	L	I		S	E	N		T	O
D	E	A	L		E	N	G		S	O

Happy Local Winners Win on Flag Day at Palm Beach Casino at the Westin Resort!



Last Sunday many Slot Players celebrated Flag day at Palm Beach Casino. The lucky winner was Mr. Rodney Hengeveld from Aruba who won a total amount of \$1,448 at our Slot Machine "Bank Buster." Mr. Rodney was estatic with his winnings and was happy to have visited Palm Beach Casino at the Westin Resort.

Michelle Obama kicks off charm campaign

NEW YORK (AFP) - First Lady Michelle Obama has kicked off an election-year charm offensive with an appearance at a celebrity campaign event and some light-hearted banter on a late night comedy show.

At a dinner hosted by actor Robert De Niro in New York, Obama delivered her own version of the president's standard stump speech in which she vaunted his accomplishments over the past three years.

"Can I get an 'Amen?'" she asked at one point to applause from the crowd, which included Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein and actors Ben Stiller and Whoopi Goldberg.

Later on Monday, the first lady appeared on "The Late Show with David Letterman," where she discussed life in the White House and first dog Bo, whom she referred to as "the smartest dog on the planet."

"He is my son. I have two girls and a boy," she said.

She also talked about recent "covert" shopping trips that allowed her to briefly escape the White House and mingle with ordinary Americans, at least one of whom spoke to her without knowing who she was.

On a more somber note likely to be sounded throughout the campaign season, Obama spoke about her working class roots on Chicago's South Side and her father, who worked at a municipal water plant.

"My father had multiple sclerosis and I never knew him to be able to walk. But my dad worked so hard. And he loved us so much," she said.

"We had rules. We had boundaries, but there wasn't anything my dad wouldn't do for us. And -- Don't make me cry... This isn't Oprah," she added, earning a hearty laugh from the crowd.

President Barack Obama's campaign likely hopes that the first lady's working class background -- neither of her parents went to college -- will help him to connect with Americans struggling through a slow economic recovery.

November's general election will likely turn on whether voters believe Obama has turned around the US economy and deserves a second term or that one of his Republican rivals would be better able to get Americans back to work.



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5th	\$150
Intermission	
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7th	\$225
8th	Progr.
9th	\$500

Bingo package \$8 / Afls 14





Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up

and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples.

high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange



Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV,

rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



Excellent dining, charming ambiance and a breathtaking view found only at La Trattoria El Faro Blanco



Stunning sunset



Over twenty years ago, a very clever person had the idea of placing a cozy little restaurant on the top of the cliff adjacent to the California Lighthouse, offering the most stunning view of Aruba imaginable.

La Trattoria el Faro Blanco took over the location some years ago, and the restaurant's quaint trappings, superb selection and amenable staff has made it a one of the island's most popular dining spots ever since.

Savoring the sight of a spectacular Aruban sunset and the tiered layout of the eatery also makes it the ideal spot for marking a special occasion, such as an anniversary or a marriage proposal, as well as a perfect venue for weddings or a celebratory party. An extensive and diverse menu and wine list allows those planning a special festivity will be able to devise a memorable event and management is ready and willing to help you stay within your budget.

Many have taken note of this singular location as the place to go for that memorable romantic meal, and their reservation staff reports a waiting list for the rail tables that offer the best unobstructed view,



Osso Buco with Risotto

recommending reservations well in advance if this is important to you.

The restaurant is now open from early in the day for refreshments, and is the perfect lunch stop while touring, serving from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, after which visitors can enjoy a light snack from their Pizza Mini Menu until 6:00 PM when they officially open for dinner, until 11:00 PM.

All these aspects of charming surroundings, dining al fresco with a breathtaking view (or in their enclosed air-conditioned dining room, if you prefer) and fine food makes La Trattoria El Faro the single dining experience that must not be missed before departing Aruba. Reservations can be made by calling 586-0786 or 586-0787, or via e-mail link at their website, www.aruba-latrattoria.com, where you can peruse their latest menu, as Chef Alberto is always devising some tasty new specialty to take advantage of what is fresh for the season.

SPORTS

Golf: Tiger plays at par for last-place Tavistock team

ORLANDO (AFP) - Injury-nagged Tiger Woods fired a par 72 at Lake Nona on Tuesday in the second and final round of the Tavistock Cup exhibition event as his Albany team stumbled to a last-place finish.

Nine days after walking off in the last round of a World Golf Championships event at Doral with a strained left Achilles tendon, Woods made two birdies on the front nine and two bogeys on the back nine playing in the final four-some.

Woods birdied the par-5 second and the par-3 fourth and took bogeys at the par-5 11th and par-3 13th in his first stroke-play round since the injury. He had played in a better-ball format with England's Justin Rose on Monday.

Only one player among the 24 in the field, Albany teammate Luke Donald of England, had a worse round than Woods, shooting a 76.

Host Lake Nona won the

\$2.15 million event featuring four teams of top PGA talent with a 41-under par total score, two strokes ahead of Isleworth with Queenwood third on 31-under and 2011 champion Albany last on 26-under.

Health fears abounded over Woods, a 14-time major champion chasing the all-time record 18 majors won by Jack Nicklaus, when he walked off at Doral after hitting his tee shot on the 12th hole.

But Woods rested his leg and received medical treatment and said last week he would play in the Tavistock event, the US PGA Arnold Palmer Invitational that begins at Bay Hill on Thursday and at the Masters, which starts April 5.

Former World No. 1 Woods has won six titles at Bay Hill in his career. He will tee off on Thursday morning alongside US compatriot Hunter Mahan and Ernie Els, a three-time major winner who needs a victory to qualify for the Masters.

Els shared low-round hon-

ors on Tuesday at the Tavistock event on five-under 67 along with compatriot Retief Goosen, Australian Robert Allenby, England's Ross Fisher and Denmark's Thomas Bjorn.

Last year, Achilles and knee injuries at the Masters kept Woods sidelined for almost four months, keeping him from playing in the US and British Opens.

Woods, ranked 18th in the world, has not won any tournament since the 2009 Australian Masters, just before the start of his infamous sex scandal, and has not won a major crown since limping through a playoff to capture the 2008 US Open.

But Woods has been in solid recent form. He won the World Golf Challenge charity event he hosts last December, shared third at Abu Dhabi to open the 2012 season and shared second at the Honda Classic earlier this month after shooting a 62 on Sunday, the best final round of his career.

Swimming: Manaudou qualifies for Olympics backstroke



DUNKIRK, France (AFP) - Former Olympic champion Laure Manaudou secured her ticket for the 2012 London Games Tuesday after claiming the French title in the 100 me-

tres backstroke.

Manaudou, the 400m freestyle champion in Athens in 2004, clocked a winning time of 1min 00.16sec. The maximum qualifying time was 1:00.82.

It was Manaudou's best time in the event since returning to competition in June 2011, just over a year after the birth of her child in April 2010 with fellow French swimming star Frederick Bousquet.

It also means she will compete at her third Olympics, three years after retiring from the sport.

Manaudou had a miserable experience at her last

Olympics, in 2008 at Beijing, where she finished eighth and last in the 400m, seventh in the 100m freestyle and failed to qualify for the 200m backstroke final.

Joining Manaudou in London will be 19-year-old Yannick Agnel, who beat his own French record on his way to a third consecutive national title in the 200m.

His time of 1:44.42 was the best time this year in the distance.

Amaury Leveaux, who won the men's 50m butterfly on Sunday, confirmed his intentions this year, following two mediocre seasons, by claiming his Olympic spot for the men's 200m freestyle in a time of 1:46.72.

Camille Lacourt, the European champion in the men's 100m backstroke, also booked his ticket for London after defending his national title in a time of 52.75sec, the best time this year.

Teammate Jeremy Stravius, however, will miss out on London. Despite finishing in 54.04 and inside the qualifying time, he was beaten to the second Olympic spot by Amiens club-mate Benjamin Stasiulis, in 53.98.

The fourth day of the championships is on Wednesday.



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Open Mon - Sat
Lunch : 12:00 - 3:00pm
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Baseball: Darvish solid in third start for Rangers

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Japanese pitcher Yu Darvish allowed one run on one hit while striking out four Milwaukee batters on Monday in his third Major League Baseball exhibition start for the Texas Rangers.

The 25-year-old right-hander enjoyed his longest outing in three appearances for the Rangers, throwing 39 of his 70 pitches for strikes but walking three batters and hitting another to provide base runners for the Brewers.

Darvish was pulled from the game after four innings for right-handed pitcher Tanner Scheppers with Texas leading 3-1 at Surprise, Arizona.

The Rangers, losers in the World Series the past two seasons, paid \$107.7 million for Darvish, signing him to a six-year deal for \$56 million in January after spending the rest simply for the exclusive rights to negotiate with him.

Darvish was 93-38 with a 1.99 earned-run average in 164 starts over seven years in the Japan League, where he was twice named the Most Valuable Player while with the Nippon Ham Fighters.

Darvish struck out Milwaukee leadoff hitter Rickie Weeks twice, the first time on his way to retiring the Brewers in order in the first inning.

After Rangers batters staked Darvish to a 2-0 lead, he began the second inning by walking Travis Ishikawa. After retiring the next two batters, Darvish hit Milwaukee's Jonathan Lucroy with a pitch to put him at first base.

Milwaukee's Norichika Aoki then singled up the middle off his compatriot to score Ishikawa from second base. Darvish responded by striking out Cesar Izturis to end the in-

ning.

Darvish retired Milwaukee in order again in the third, again starting with a strikeout of Weeks, but struggled in the fourth inning, issuing walks to Ishikawa and George Kottaras before inducing Lucroy into hitting into a double play to end the inning.

In his first US appearance on March 7, Darvish pitched two scoreless innings and struck out two San Diego batters in a 36-pitch effort.

In his second start for the Rangers last Tuesday, Darvish surrendered two runs on three hits and four walks while striking out three Cleveland batters over his 61 pitches.

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Football: Messi sets news Barca all-time scoring record

MADRID (AFP) - Lionel Messi set a new all-time scoring record of 233 goals for Barcelona Tuesday when he scored the second of two goals in an ongoing Spanish league match against Granada.

Messi earlier equalled the all-time record, held by the legendary Cesar Rodriguez, when he scored his 232nd goal for the Liga giants.

Argentina international Messi hit the fabled target when he scored Barcelona's second goal of the night against Granada in a league match which began at 2000 GMT.

Previously, Cesar was believed to have scored 235 goals for Barcelona.

But "a study has revealed that the legendary Cesar Rodriguez in fact scored 232 goals, or just one more than the Argentinian, who could equal or beat that score against Granada," Barcelona said earlier Tuesday on their website.

Cesar played in the 1940s and 1950s and died in 1995 at the age of 74.

A Barcelona win against Granada would take them to within five points of Madrid, with the league leaders playing away at Villarreal on Wednesday.

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NBA: Rose-less Bulls rout Magic in record fashion

ORLANDO (AFP) - Even with reigning NBA Most Valuable Player Derrick Rose missing his fourth game in a row with a groin strain, the Chicago Bulls were far too much for the Orlando Magic to handle.

Carlos Boozer scored 24 points and grabbed 13 rebounds, while John Lucas came off the bench to contribute 20 points, and Britain's Luol Deng added 14 points to power the Bulls to a record-setting 85-59 rout of the Magic on Monday night.

The Bulls improved their league-best record to 38-10 and boosted their record without Rose this season to 10-4. Orlando fell to 29-18 while Chicago improved to a league-best 19-6 on the road this season.

"We needed this win," Lucas said. "It was a good road win for us."

Despite 18 points and 12 rebounds by Dwight Howard, the Magic scored the fewest points ever against the Bulls in a regular-season game, lowering the old mark of 62 by Milwaukee in 1997 when Michael Jordan sparked Chicago's defense.

"We're all about defense," Lucas said. "We know we have enough firepower."

And that's with playmaker Rose watching from the bench and inspiring his teammates before the games.

"Derrick comes to us every game and says, 'It's time. Let's go. Just because I ain't playing doesn't mean we're going to lose.'"

Boozer scored 16 points in the first half and Deng added eight as Chicago took a 48-33 half-time lead and the Magic never threatened in the second half.

Rose suffered the groin injury last Monday in a victory over the New York Knicks when Asian-American sensation Jeremy Lin blocked a first-quarter Rose shot attempt.

"I haven't been able to run in a couple days, just making sure that my leg is OK and making sure that the pain goes away very quickly," Rose said. "You don't want this to linger where I can't move. Every day it's definitely getting better, but I haven't been able to run."

Rose expects to miss Chicago's three more games this week and has no idea when he might be back on the court.

"They say with an injury like this, they don't know how long it's going to take," Rose said. "I thought I was going to be back sooner. I'm missing big games that I hate to miss."

Bulls coach Tom Thibodeau is not taking any chances with the playoffs still more than a month away.

"We're not going to rush him back," Thibodeau said. "We want him to be completely healthy. We think that's important."

Rose has no problem with doctors taking a conservative approach to the injury but said being benched is aggravating.

"It has definitely been frustrating," Rose said.

Manning inks record continued from page 16

Manning's contract requires him to pass a physical in 2013 to make \$20 million guaranteed money next year and in 2014 and pass physicals to earn his salary in 2015 and 2016, a safety clause in case Manning's neck injury limits his ability.

"I told him, 'I don't want him to risk his life and I can't risk the Denver Broncos,'" Elway said. "Having been in his shoes, I know what I'd want from his side. Peyton was OK with everything. That was rather simple."

Added Manning: "If neither side was comfortable, I was afraid winning wouldn't follow."

Manning met twice with Elway while a free agent pondering offers from several clubs before taking his time in deciding to trade one horse-named NFL team for another.

"I hate that it put other teams in bad positions. It was the only way I knew to do the process to find out what made the most sense," Manning said.

"It was hard. It was so public. At times I said pick one to get it over with. I was waiting for that gut feeling and I was glad I did when it hit me."

"I felt very comfortable here. It's up to me and the people around me here to make this the right decision."

Despite only going 8-8, the Broncos reached the playoffs last season behind quarterback phenomenon Tim Tebow, who has enticed trade

talk from several clubs.

"If he is here next season I will be the best teammate I can be," Manning said. "If other opportunities present themselves to him I will wish him the best. He's going to be a great player wherever he is."

"I'm a fan of his too. He's a great guy. I have a great respect for what he accomplished last year

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"Together we will learn"

NFL: Manning inks record deal to join Broncos



NEW YORK (AFP) - Superstar quarterback Peyton Manning made his first appearance as a member of the Denver Broncos on Tuesday after signing an NFL quarterback record five-year deal worth \$96 million with the club.

Manning, a four-time NFL Most Valuable Player who led Indianapolis to a Super Bowl crown in 2007, smiled as he spoke at the Broncos team headquarters just two weeks after an emotional departure from Indianapolis after 14 seasons.

"I'm very excited to begin the next chapter of my playing career," Manning said. "I can tell this organization is committed to winning. This is a great place to be."

"In the end, I felt the Broncos were just a great fit. I'm thrilled to be here, looking forward to meeting my new teammates and hopefully leading the Broncos to more Super Bowls."

Broncos vice-president John Elway, a retired two-time

Super Bowl champion quarterback for Denver, said he was confident after seeing Manning in a workout that his skills were near their peak.

"I believe he has got a lot of great football left in him," Elway said. "We are thrilled he has elected to play for the Denver Broncos."

"My goal is to make Peyton Manning the best quarterback who ever played the game. He has that opportunity with the ability he has left in him."

Manning, whose \$19.2 million annual average salary is the most for an NFL quarterback, will wear the same jersey number, 18, that he used with the Colts after Frank Tripucka, the 84-year-old first quarterback of the Broncos in the 1960s, approved the team un-retiring his old number.

"He really wants me to wear his number. It was a very humbling conversation," Manning said. "It truly is an honor for me. I'm truly following his wishes."

The Broncos add the third-

best quarterback in NFL history behind Brett Favre and Dan Marino with 4,682 completions for 54,828 yards and 399 touchdowns.

"Peyton gives us a chance to win another world championship," Broncos owner Pat Bowlen said. "Peyton is one of the best ever to play this game and I feel very fortunate to have him here."

Manning, who will turn 36 on Saturday, was released by the Colts on March 7 after the team decided not to pay him a \$28 million bonus to pick up the final four years on his contract.

Manning missed the entire 2011 regular season after a fourth neck surgery but has been medically cleared to return to the gridiron by doctors.

The Colts, however, did not want to risk health issues from Manning when they owned the first pick in next month's NFL Draft after a 2-14 season and were set to select star college quarterback Andrew Luck.

Manning passed physicals for several teams but said he still feels he can improve arm strength and endurance related to nerve regeneration in his neck.

"I'm not where I want to be," Manning said. "I want to be where I was before I was injured. I needed the training staff to help me get where I want to be."

"I have a lot of work to do to get where I want to be from a health standpoint and in learning the offense."

continues on page 15

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Spanish police arrest 10 in anti-doping raids

BARCELONA (AFP) - Spanish police have arrested 10 suspects in Madrid and Barcelona and smashed an international sports doping ring allegedly linked to the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, officials said.

Police said the network was implicated in competitors' positive doping tests at the

2008 Beijing Olympics, cycling's 2010 Tour of Spain and 2009 Tour of Portugal, as well as the 2010 Spanish athletics championships.

Although police believe they have dismantled the ring, a second round of raids and arrests cannot be ruled out, a spokesman for the regional Catalan police said Tuesday.

Police said they swooped on the group ahead of the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

Given the difficulties identifying final clients "and the proximity in time of the London 2012 Olympic Games, we decided to dismantle the group when the head of the organisation" was in Spain, they said in a statement.

Among those detained was the alleged brainchild, a Spanish-Colombian doctor identified only as Alberto B.N. "who had many contacts in elite sport", the statement said.

The doctor, who was implicated in "multiple doping cases in different countries", was arrested at Madrid-Barajas airport on March 5 allegedly with doping substances in his possession, police said.

The operation began last summer when police were investigating a shop in Mataro, near Barcelona, that sold anabolic steroids to sportspeople, officers said.

The shop was allegedly linked to a Catalan athlete's positive test for a synthetic steroid called EPO, or erythropoietin, in the 2010 Spanish athletics championships, the statement said.

The shop received EPO from Morocco via two people, one of whom was a nurse at a dialysis centre, "where he is suspected of stealing different types of EPO," the police said.

The shop is also alleged to have delivered EPO to two Moroccan brothers in Madrid who administered doping substances to cyclists.

Police said Alberto B.N. was head of the network and

that in seven raids they seized documents, growth hormones and various steroids including a type of EPO known as CERA (continuous erythropoietin receptor activator).

Spanish Sports Minister Jose Ignacio Wert said last month that the government would try to harmonise Spain's anti-doping laws with World Anti-Doping Agency requirements.

This was a crucial aspect of Madrid's bid to host the 2020 Olympics, the minister said.

Spain's anti-doping law makes trafficking in sports doping products a criminal offense.

But the regulations have been criticised for restricting the timing of out-of-competition tests and amount of the information competitors must give on their whereabouts.

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